

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 104-112 and 121-126 are pending. Group I, claims 104-107, 121, and 125 were elected without traverse in response to the Election/Restriction filed 8/15/08.
2. The Affidavit filed 07/03/06 has been considered and entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicants', an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview by Attorney Randall G. Rueth on 09 September 2008.

In the claims

4. Claims 108-112, 122-124, and 126 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 104-107, 121, and 125 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art is (EPO 731 600A2) Patti et al. Patti et al. discloses a system for the creation of a high resolution image from a sequence of lower resolution images, but failed to disclose a digital management system for high resolution digital images of the first image provider being transparent to the other unrelated image providers which are not authorized users identified by the first image provider. Di Vincenzo et al. (US 5,965,859) disclosed capturing digital images and audio files and downloading them into

a computer workstation for further processing and they can be downloaded into computer memory with the images being further processed or enhanced by any suitable software such as "ADOBE PHOTOSHOP" software and after processing the high resolution form is sent to a server or printer for storage and a low resolution form of the images is sent to a customer storage device residing in a remote location but failed to disclose a digital management system for high resolution digital images of the first image provider being transparent to the other unrelated image providers which are not authorized users identified by the first image provider. "Kodak's Flashpix Format Rethinks the Whole Idea of Digital Image Processing" discloses the highest resolution is determined by the device that creates the original image, a hierarchy of images created by an application first writing the Flashpix file, and a Flashpix file containing a thumbnail image for quick reference but failed to disclose a digital management system for high resolution digital images of the first image provider being transparent to the other unrelated image providers which are not authorized users identified by the first image provider. "Kodak's Systems Emphasize "Take Pictures Further" Theme at RSN'96" discloses a medical image manager serving as a Bridge to DICOM The Kodak Digital Science medical image manager captures and routes the images and patient information devices on a network supporting DICOM storage and print services but failed to disclose a digital management system for high resolution digital images of the first image provider being transparent to the other unrelated image providers which are not authorized users identified by the first image provider.

For these reasons claims 104, 121, and 125 are deemed to be allowable over the prior art of record, and claims 105-107 are allowed by dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ella Colbert whose telephone number is 571-272-6741. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 5:30AM-3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dixon Thomas can be reached on 571-272-6803. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ella Colbert/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3696

September 15, 2008